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National Agricultural Statistics Service
Kentucky Field Office



News Release

Cooperating with Kentucky Department of Agriculture
PO Box 1120 · Louisville, Kentucky 40201-1120
(502) 582-5293 · (502) 582-5114 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/ky

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KENTUCKY SHEEP AND GOAT INVENTORIES DECLINE

Sheep and lambs and goat inventories in Kentucky declined from last year according to the Kentucky Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

All meat and other goats in Kentucky were estimated at 72,500 head, down 6,500 head from January 2010. Milk goats at 5,500 head, was down 1,000 head from the previous year's estimate.

The total number of sheep in Kentucky on January 1, 2011, was estimated at 34,000 head, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous year's estimate. All breeding sheep and lambs were estimated at 28,000 head and all market sheep and lambs were estimated at 6,000 head. Breeding ewes decreased by 1,000 to 22,000, and breeding rams were unchanged at 1,500 head. Replacement lambs numbered 4,500, unchanged from 2010. Lamb crop for 2010 decreased by 3,000 from last year to 25,000 head.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2011, totaled 5.53 million head, down 2 percent from 2010. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.12 million head on January 1, 2011, down 2 percent from 4.19 million head on January 1, 2010. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.26 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2011, totaled 1.42 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2010. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 21 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 34 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings. The 2010 lamb crop of 3.60 million head, was down 2 percent from 2009. The 2010 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2010, unchanged from 2009.

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2011, totaled 3.00 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.49 million head down 1 percent from 2010. Does one year old and older, at 1.84 million head, were 1 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 514,000 head, down 1 percent from a year ago. Kid crop for 2010 totaled 1.91 million head for all goats, down 2 percent from 2009. Meat and all other goats totaled 2.47 million head on January 1, 2011, down 2 percent from 2010. Milk goat inventory increased to 360,000 head, 1 percent above January 1, 2010, while angora goats were up 7 percent, totaling 172,000 head.

LELAND E. BROWN
Director